REPUBLICAN FloorPrep

Legislative Digest

Monday, June 22, 1998

John Boehner Chairman 8th District, Ohio

> House Meets at 12:30 p.m. for Morning Hour and 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business (No Votes Before 5:00 p.m.)

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 3303—Department of Justice Authorization Act H.Con.Res. 288—Sense of Congress in Support of U.S. Law Enforcement **Efforts Regarding Mexican Financial Institutions** H.Res. 452—Sense of the House Regarding an Increase in Postal Rates H.R. 2742—California Indian Land Transfer Act H.R. 2795—Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act H.J.Res. 113—Approving the Location of a Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial H.R. 4059—FY 1999 Military Construction Appropriations Act H.R. 4060—FY 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act



Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House will consider the following six bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

H.R. 3303—Department of Justice Authorization Act reauthorizes activities and funding for the Department of Justice for FY 1999, FY 2000, and FY 2001. In total, the bill authorizes \$15.5 billion for FY 1999, \$16.2 billion for FY 2000, and \$16.5 billion for FY 2001. The bill further reauthorizes for two additional years a number of programs set to expire in September, including programs which (1) expedite alien deportations once they have been denied asylum, (2) combat violence against women, and (3) provide specialized training for and equipment to fire and emergency service departments to equip them to respond to terrorist attacks in metropolitan areas. Finally, the bill permanently authorizes various noncontroversial functions of the Justice Department, and provides a permanent authorization to the U.S. Marshals Service similar to that granted to other law enforcement services under the Justice Department's jurisdiction. CBO estimates that enactment will result in additional discretionary spending of \$48 billion between 1999-2003. H.R. 3303 was introduced by Mr. Hyde and was ordered reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on April 28, 1998.

H.Con.Res. 288—Sense of Congress in Support of U.S. Law Enforcement Efforts Regarding Mexican Financial Institutions expresses the sense of Congress that the U.S. should support the efforts of federal law enforcement agents engaged in investigating and prosecuting of money laundering operations associated with Mexican financial institutions. The resolution arises from efforts led by the U.S. Customs Service, in cooperation with other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, over the course of three years to investigate money laundering and other financial schemes being conducted by Mexican drug traffickers. H.Con.Res. 288 was introduced by Mr. Bachus; the resolution was not considered by a committee.

H.Res. 452—Sense of the House Regarding an Increase in Postal Rates expresses the sense of the House that the board of governors of the United States Postal Service should reject the recommended decision issued by the Postal Rate Commission on May 11, 1998, to increase postage rates. The resolution arises from a one-cent increase in postage rates for first-class mail, as well as similar changes to the rates for other categories of mail, which was approved two months ago. The Postal Rate Commission, which is charged under the terms of the Postal Reorganization Act with conducting periodic reviews of postal rates, recommended the one-cent increase in rates in July 1997. The U.S. Postal Service's Board of Governors, which must ultimately approve all such rate changes, agreed with and accepted the commission's rate recommendations. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Latham and was not considered by a committee.

H.R. 2742—California Indian Land Transfer Act transfers 3,525 acres of excess Bureau of Land Management land to eight California Indian tribes. The transfer of these tracts allows the tribes to consolidate their holdings. In addition, the measure terminates grazing privileges on the transferred lands two years after enactment. At that time, the tribes will be able to renegotiate the grazing permits. Finally, the bill stipulates that, after enactment, all receipts collected from use of the land (i.e., from sales, royalties, or rentals) must be made available to the tribes. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Young (AK); the Resources Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

H.R. 2795—Irrigation Project Contract Extension Act extends certain water contracts between the Bureau of Reclamation and irrigators in Nebraska and Wyoming that receive water from Glendo Reservoir. Specifically, the measure directs the Interior Secretary to extend 10 specified water service or repayment contracts for the Glendo Unit of the Missouri River Basin Project for three years through December 31, 2001. In addition, the measure requires that, if the cooperative agreement concerning the Platte River is extended beyond December 31, 2001, the 10 water service or repayment contracts be extended by an equal term. A CBO cost estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was introduced by Mr. Barrett (NE); the Resources Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

H.J.Res. 113—Approving the Location of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial approves a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr. at a site located in the District of Columbia. The Interior Department, in consultation with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the

Commission on Fine Arts, will select the final site and approve the design. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Faleomavaega; the Resources Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

Additional Information: See Legislative Digest, Vol. XXVII, #17, June 19, 1998.



H.R. 4059—FY 1999 Military Construction Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 4059 today after it completes consideration of the scheduled suspensions. On Friday, June 19, the House adopted an open rule that accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. It waives House rules which prohibit unauthorized appropriations, legislative provisions on an appropriations bill, and transfers of unobligated balances. The rule permits the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 4059 appropriates approximately \$8.2 billion for military construction for FY 1999—\$450 million more than President Clinton's request and \$974 million less than the FY 1998 level. The additional funding above the president's request includes (1) \$68 million for six additional unaccompanied housing projects, (2) \$49 million for new construction and improvements to family housing, benefiting 480 military families, (3) \$8 million for two child development centers, (4) \$307 million for operational and training facilities for the active components, and (5) \$129 million for operational, training, environmental compliance and safety related activities for the reserve components. All projects funded in H.R. 4059 are authorized under the FY 1999 Defense Authorization bill (H.R. 3616).

Overall, the bill's spending is equal to the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation. Specifically, the bill appropriates (1) \$2.8 billion for military construction projects (\$437 million more than the president's request and \$389 million less than in FY 1998), (2) \$169 million for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization security investment program (\$16 million less than the president requested and \$16.4 million more than the FY 1998 amount), (3) \$3.5 billion for family housing (\$29 million more than the president's request and \$386 million less than last year), and \$1.7 billion for base realignment and closure accounts (equal to the president's request and \$331 million less than last year).

CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 4059 will result in discretionary outlays of \$2.6 billion in FY 1999, \$2.7 billion in FY 2000, \$1.6 billion in FY 2001, \$787 million in FY 2002, and \$395 million in FY 2003 and beyond. The bill was submitted by Mr. Packard on June 16, the Appropriations Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote on June 16, 1998.

Views: The Republican Leadership strongly supports passage of H.R. 4059. The Clinton Administration objects to the appropriators adding \$580 million for 90 unrequested projects and programs and not funding \$130 million in requested items.

Amendments: At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was unaware of any amendments to H.R. 4059.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVII, #17, June 19, 1998.



H.R. 4060—FY 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 4060 after it completes consideration of H.R. 4059. Appropriations bills are privileged and may be considered anytime three days after they are filed. On Friday, June 19, the House adopted an open rule providing for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Appropriations Committee. The rule waives points of order against the bill for containing measures within the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee that were not reported by it. It also waives House rules prohibiting unauthorized appropriations, legislative measures in an appropriations bill, and reappropriations. The rule accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. It permits the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Additional information on the rule and any amendments made in order will be provided to all Republican offices in a *FloorPrep* prior to floor consideration.

Summary: H.R. 4060 appropriates \$20.7 billion in new budget authority for FY 1998 for the Department of Energy and related programs, \$79.9 million less than last year and \$649.1 million less than the president's request. The amount is approximately equal to the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation for discretionary spending.

The vast majority of the bill's funding, \$16.2 billion, is allocated to various programs run by the Department of Energy (DOE), \$305 million more than last year and \$866.8 million less than the president's request.

In addition, the measure appropriates \$4 billion to the Army Corps of Engineers, \$203.6 million less than FY 1998 and \$744 million more than the president's request, to maintain and expand the nation's waterway, flood control, and irrigation infrastructure. Finally, the bill allocates \$803.8 million to the Interior Department, mostly for the Bureau of Reclamation, and \$103 million for related independent agencies.

CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 4060 will result in discretionary outlays of \$12.9 million in FY 1999, \$6.4 million in FY 2000, \$1.2 million in FY 2001, \$88 million in FY 2002, and \$140 million in FY 2003 and beyond. The bill was submitted by Mr. McDade on June 16, 1998; the Appropriations Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote.

Views: The Republican leadership supports passage of the measure. An official Clinton Administration viewpoint was unavailable at press time.

Amendments: At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was unaware of any amendments to H.R. 4060.

Additional Information: See Legislative Digest, Vol. XXVII, #17, June 19, 1998.



PLEASE NOTE: UNDER AN OPEN RULE, MEMBERS MAY OFFER ENTIRELY NEW AMENDMENTS TO A BILL AT ANY TIME, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN PRE-PRINTED IN THE *CONGRESSIONAL RECORD*.

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Please attach the text of the amendment (if available) and fax to the Legislative Digest at x5-7298

John Boehner
Chairman
Sth District, Ohio

8th District, Onio		
Member Sponsoring Amendment	nt:	Bill#:
Additional Co-sponsors (if any):_		
StaffContact:	Phone#:	Evening Phone#:
Description of the amendment:		
(Please include any additional o	r contextual inform	nation)
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